

36 inches in by the normal working position;

(9) *Hand loading section shooting off the solid.* On the hand loader exposed to the greatest dust concentration or at a location that represents the maximum concentration of dust to which the miner is exposed;

(10) *Anthracite mine sections.* On the hand loader exposed to the greatest dust concentration or at a location that represents the maximum concentration of dust to which the miner is exposed.

(f)(1) Each mechanized mining unit will be assigned a four digit identification number by MSHA. The mechanized mining unit shall retain that identification number regardless of where the unit relocates within the mine.

(2) When two sets of mining equipment are provided in a series of working places and only one production crew is employed at any given time on either set of mining equipment, the two sets of equipment shall be identified as a single mechanized mining unit. When two or more mechanized mining units are simultaneously engaged in the production of material within the same working section, each such mechanized mining unit shall be identified separately.

**§ 70.208 Bimonthly sampling; designated areas.**

(a) Each operator shall take one valid respirable dust sample from each designated area on a production shift during each bimonthly period beginning with the bimonthly period of December 1, 1980. The bimonthly periods are:

February 1–March 31  
April 1–May 31  
June 1–July 31  
August 1–September 30  
October 1–November 30  
December 1–January 31.

(b) When the respirable dust standard is changed in accordance with § 70.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present), respirable dust sampling of designated areas shall begin on the first production shift during the next bimonthly period following notification of such change from MSHA.

(c) Upon notification from MSHA that any respirable dust sample taken

from a designated area to meet the requirements of paragraph (a) or (b) of this section exceeds the applicable standard in § 70.100 (Respirable dust standards) or § 70.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present), the operator shall take five valid respirable dust samples from that designated area within 15 calendar days. The operator shall begin such sampling on the first day on which there is a production shift following the day of receipt of notification.

(d) Upon issuance of a citation for a violation of § 70.100 (Respirable dust standards) or § 70.101 (Respirable dust standard when quartz is present) involving a designated area, paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of this section shall not apply to that designated area until the violation is abated in accordance with § 70.201(d) (Sampling; general requirements).

(e) Designated area samples shall be collected at locations to measure respirable dust generation sources in the active workings. The approved mine ventilation plan contents required by § 75.371(t) of this chapter shall show the specific locations where designated area samples will be collected. Each designated area will be assigned a four-digit identification number by MSHA.

(f) MSHA approval of the operator's ventilation system and methane and dust control plan may be revoked based on samples taken by MSHA or in accordance with this part 70.

[45 FR 24000, Apr. 8, 1980, as amended at 57 FR 20913, May 15, 1992]

**§ 70.209 Respirable dust samples; transmission by operator.**

(a) The operator shall transmit within 24 hours after the end of the sampling shift all samples collected to fulfill the requirements of this part in containers provided by the manufacturer of the filter cassette to: Respirable Dust Processing Laboratory, Pittsburgh Safety and Health Technology Center, Cochran Mill Road, Building 38, P.O. Box 18179, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15236-0179, or to any other address designated by the District Manager.

(b) The operator shall not open or tamper with the seal of any filter cassette or alter the weight of any filter